वहां की स्थिति को ध्यान में रखा था और यह उम्मीद की थी कि इस संपत्ति को राजनयिक मिशन के रूप में इस्तेमाल करने की अपेक्षित अनुमति मिल जाएगी।

सरकार ने स्थानीय जेनेवा कैंटन प्राधिकारियों से बात-मुलाकात की है तथा बर्न में विभिन्न स्तरों पर स्विस संघीय सरकार से भी, लेकिन उसे इस संपत्ति को कार्यालय के रूप में इस्तेमाल करने की अपेक्षित अनुमति नहीं मिली। इस विकल्प पर भी विचार किया गया कि इस संपत्ति का इस्तेमाल जेनेवा में स्थित संयुक्त राष्ट्र कार्यालय में भारत के स्थायी प्रतिनिधि आवास बना कर किया जाए, लेकिन यह पाया गया कि इसके लिए बहुत रद्दोबदल करनी पड़ेगी तथा इस काम पर बहुत धन खर्च होता।

इन्हीं कारणों से सरकार ने इस संपत्ति को बेचने का फैसला किया है। जेनेवा कैंटन ने इस संपत्ति को उसी कीमत पर खरीदने की रुचि दिखाई है जिसपर इसे भारत ने खरीदा था।

Introduction of Dress Code in Indian Embassy School in Riyadh

2732. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALLA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Embassy School in Riyadh has been forced to introduce a dress code that needs the female students and teachers to wear black robes covering neck to toe and also covering of their head with black piece of cloth while in school;

(b) details of the authorities in Riyadh who supposed to have imposed such dress code;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a woman teacher of the Embassy School has resigned her job in protest against the imposition of the dress code, if so, details thereof; and

(d) what steps, if any, taken by Government to protect freedom of the Embassy School in Riyadh, that enjoys diplomatic immunity from any local regulations, in having its own uniform for the students and traditional Indian dresses for teachers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Teachers have been asked by the School Management to wear Abaya or black gown in accordance with local dress regulation which requires all ladies in the kingdom to wear it in public places. No such dress code has been prescribed for girl students though they are advised to adhere to the local dress code particularly when going out of the school premises.

(b) The General Presidency of Commendation of Virtues and Prevention of Vices, which is a Government organisation, has sent written instructions in this respect to the school.

(c) No Sir,

(d) While diplomatic missions are permitted to run school for their nationals, the school do not enjoy any diplomatic immunity or privileges and are required to follow local Government guidelines.

Involvement of foreign nationals in terrorism

2733. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many foreign nationals were found involved in terrorist activities in India, particularly linked with Kashmir and Punjab terrorism during the years 1990 to 1993;

(b) how many of them were Pakistani nationals; and

(c) how many foreign terrorists, were killed in encounter and in what manner others were dealt with for their crimes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) During the period 1990 to 1993, 113 persons known/suspected to be foreign nationals involved in terrorist activities in J & K have been killed/arrested. During the same period, 5 foreign nationals were found to be involved in terrorist activities

in the State of Punjab. Out of these 118 persons, 56 were Pakistani nationals.

86 such persons were killed in encounters in these States during this period, while the others were apprehended and action is being taken against them as per the law.

Iranian Foreign Minister's visit to India

2739. SHRI AJIT P. JOGI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foreign minister of Iran visited India recently;

(b) if so, the bilateral and multilateral issues that figured in his talks with Indian leaders and the broad outcome thereof;

(c) whether any areas have been identified for the cooperation between the two countries; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) The Deputy Foreign Ministers of Iran, Mr. Manouchehr Mottaki, Mr. Aladdin Broujerdi and Mr. Abbas Maleki visited India from March 30—April, 01, November 08—10 and December 14—17, 1993 respectively.

(b) to (d) Discussions during these visits focussed on issues arising out of bilateral cooperation. The two sides devoted attention to the prospects of expansion of trade and India's participation in economic projecs in Iran, apart from reviewing the progress in the implementation of the decisions of the Indo-Iranian Joint Commission. India and Iran have agreed to cooperate in the multilateral forums on issues of mutual concern. These talks with Iran which are part of the sustained high level dialogue between the two countries have also facilitated a useful exchange of views on the regional and international developments.

Economic ties with Gulf States

2740. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are jointly exploring the possibilities of deepening economic ties with the Gulf States of Bahrain, Oman and Qatar;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether India and Oman have agreed to organise a business seminar in which potential entrepreneurs from the entire Gulf region are proposed to participate; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is an inter-governmental Joint Commission with Bahrain and Joint Committee with Qatar which meet periodically to review and examine ways and means of expanding and diversifying economic relations with these countries. They last met in 1991 and 1988 respectively, and Government has been requesting these countries for another meeting. During Prime Minister's visit to Oman in June, 1993 an Agreement on Cooperation in Economic, Trade and Technical Cooperation was signed, which inter-alia provides for setting up of a Joint Commission at the Ministerial level. Action has been instituted with Oman on agreements to set up a subsea pipeline for natural gas to India, for two joint venture refineries in India and a fertiliser plant in Oman.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It had been proposed to jointly organise a seminar in December 1992 but was postponed by mutual consent due to inadequate response from potential participants.